

Section I:**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.121 to the CLAIMS**

Claims 1 - 13 (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) A method for automatically rating the performance of one or more resource vendors in a grid computing environment, comprising the steps of:

receiving one or more grid resource self-reports, each self-report having statistics regarding job processing;

accessing one or more client-driven performance criteria definitions, comprising accessing at least a Service Level Agreement;

receiving one or more job results from a grid resource; [[and]]

performing by a logical device an analysis of said job results against said client-driven performance criteria and said self-reports, said analysis comprising performing one or more analyses pertaining to job types where job type is selected from a group of Online Transaction Processing jobs, batch jobs, database jobs, and scientific jobs, said analysis further comprising determining one or more sub-ratings selected from the group of percentage of jobs completed, percentage of jobs completed within specified time constraints, an interactiveness rating, a cost compliance rating, and a results accuracy rating, said analysis further comprising determining a composite rating using a weighted combination of a plurality of sub-ratings; [[and]]

producing a grid resource rating table having zero or more sub-ratings, having an indication of the age of the information upon which the table is based, having an indicator of the number of jobs upon which the ranking for each resource vendor is based and having a composite rating, including producing a human-readable report, producing a computer-readable report, producing a rank-ordered Grid Vendor Rating Table for a plurality of resource vendors according to a weighted analysis of said sub-ratings for each resource vendor;

accessing said produced Grid Vendor Rating Table, a job request, a set of available grid resource characteristics, and one or more client-driven performance criteria definitions; and

producing a grid vendor selection which meets said client-driven performance definitions according its grid resource characteristics, and which is indicated by said Grid Vendor Rating Table to historically meet desired performance criteria.

Claims 15 - 39 (cancelled)